NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

December 15, 1995

WINTER FESTIVAL AND GAMES

December 26 - 31

Once again the Education Department has a full schedule of performances and activities for the week following Christmas, one of the Museum's busiest weeks. The theme for this year is "Festivals and Games" and we are trying to represent a variety of holiday activities enjoyed by many Chicago-area groups. Some of our performers and demonstrators for this week are paid, but most have reduced their normal fees or given the Museum their time as volunteers. We especially want to thank Sabrina Stewart of the Chicago Park District, the RICE-Philippine Center, the Chinese-American Service League, the Naperville Chinese School and the Turkish Consulate for their contributions. Staff members **Ben Bronson, Petra Sierwald** and **Pam Wrenn** are also contributing activities to use this week and we thank them.

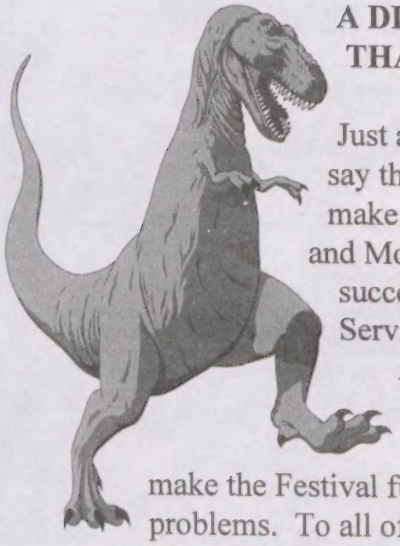
HELP!

We could still use some help during this week so Museum staff members and volunteers are encouraged to participate. *Some activities encourage visitors to participate and to show others versions of familiar games or activities.* This is especially true of jump rope and yo-yo's. We will cordon off a portion of Stanley Field Hall and invite visitors to show off their skills. *Aren't there some jump-rope and yo-yo whizzes among our staff?* Anyone interested in a noontime contest on Tuesday, December 26, and Wednesday, December 27? A schedule of the week's activities will be printed in next week's *Natural News.*

Sale! Sale! Sale!

Holiday Tree Ornaments in all Museum Stores
begins Saturday, December 16
50% off

Not valid with staff or member discounts
No holds
No adjustments of previous purchases



A DINOSAUR-SIZED THANK YOU!

Just a short and late note to say thanks to all that helped make this year's "Dinosaurs and More Festival" such a great success. As always, Visitor Services, Housekeeping, Audio Visual, Security and Education went above and beyond to make the Festival function with very few problems. To all of the volunteers that also participated, I extend my appreciation for your dedication, support and effort in making this Education Department program one of the best at the Museum.

-- Peter Laraba

MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS ALSO ATTEND SVP MEETING

Five volunteers that facilitate in the **Life Over Time** exhibit through the Education Department were also in attendance at the 55th meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. **Dennis Kinzig, Warren Valso, Joanne Kluga, John Mier** and **Laura Brandon** joined **Peter Laraba** for the five days of presentations, poster sessions, meetings and rubbing elbows. Their attendance was in response to the interest and thirst for knowledge generated by taking part on the LOT training. Both Laura and John are now pursuing degrees related to paleontology as a result of the association with the Museum and the LOT exhibit. Although not professional paleontologists, all of these volunteers have jointed the Society and plan to take an active role in the annual meetings in the future, but especially when it comes to Chicago in 1977.

FIELD MUSEUM FAN MAIL

The Museum received the following letter on November 17:

> We returned from a visit to your wonderful city in September of this year. While there we were fortunate to visit your Field Museum where we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.
>
> The purpose for this letter though is to compliment your employees on their professional, friendly and helpful attitude. We were treated almost as though we were special invited guests.
>
> Special mention should go to **"BEV",** that's all the name we got. She was especially helpful.
>
> Thank you again for making our visit so wonderful.
>
> Sincerely,
> XXX

REMINDER: The deadline for the *Natural News* is Tuesday at noon. Material received after that time will be held for publication the following week. The *Natural News* **will** be published Friday, December 22 & 29.

THE FIELD MUSEUM

Office of

Facility Planning and Operations

"We Work Better Together"

Inter-Office Memorandum

DATE: December 11, 1995

TO: All Staff

FROM: John B. Mazza
Manager, Facility Planning and Operations

SUBJECT: **Work Request, Green Sheets, Repair, and Emergency Repair for Engineering and Maintenance Departments**

Effective January 1, 1996 all Departments requiring the services of either the Engineering or Maintenance departments should direct their requests directly to the office of Facility Planning and Operations at extension 380.

Requests will be handled in one of four ways:

- **Emergency repairs** should be routed through this office. I propose that, if there, for some reason , be no response at extension 380 that all calls in need of immediate attention be directed to the Security office, and that Security contact someone via radio in Engineering or Maintenance to be directed to the emergency. These are of the first priority.
- **Work requests** are of the second priority and will be a written request(see form attached) to the office of Facility Planning and Operations. These are to include a brief description of the work required along with the location, and an authorized signature for billing purposes.
- **Building Check List** is meant to cover those items that are not necessarily a department request, but are in need of attention throughout the building. These can be initiated by any staff member of the building. The person initiating the request would be required to fill out the prescribed form(sample attached) and send it to the Facility Planning and Operations office. The items on this list would become part of the general maintenance requirements and scheduled as such. This would carry the least priority.
- **Green Sheets** will continue to be routed to the office of Facility Planning and Operations, and scheduled accordingly. As is indicated on the back of the Green Sheet, These are to be submitted seven days prior to an event with the appropriate account and/or project number.

In conclusion, it should be noted what has been followed to date is a process in which staff, formally or informally, contact maintenance, or engineering directly to request work. This bypasses the administrative process and impedes the ability to accurately forecast manpower, scheduling, budgets, and report on the progress of this office.

If you have any comments or suggestions please call extension 380, your input is welcomed. Thank you.

cc: F. Cartright
J. Croft
file: memos

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

October 1995

On Thursday, October 5, 1995, The Field Museum honored the dedication of its staff members at an annual recognition luncheon for long service employees and retirees. People make a great institution, and it is through the dedicated efforts of our staff that the Museum has accomplished so much. Sandy Boyd, President, hosted the luncheon which was held in the Founders' Room. As usual, Lionel Dunn from Security Services provided impressive musical entertainment for the luncheon. Also present were staff members' guests, a department representative of the retiree, and area vice presidents. The following staff members were honored:

RETIREES

Glanver Brooks, Visitor Services
Lorraine Hobe, Mail Room

40 YEARS SERVICE

Ruth Andris, Anthro/Conservation

25 YEARS SERVICE

John Kethley, Zoology/Insects

20 YEARS SERVICE

Harvey Matthew, Exhibits

15 YEARS SERVICE

Chantal Charles, Visitor Services
Chirkina Chirkina, Security Services
Frantz Eliacin, Mail Room
Richard Groh, Security Services
Ernst Pierre-Toussaint, Maintenance

10 YEARS OF SERVICE

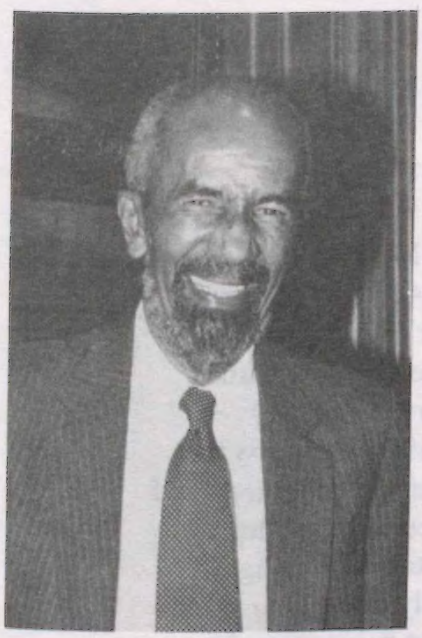
Ramon Alba, Housekeeping
Mara Cosillo-Starr, Education
Luis Fernandez, Maintenance
Robert French, Security Services
Geoffrey Grove, Exhibits
Tina Gulley-Augustus, Security Services
Scott Mattera, Exhibits
Gregory Mueller, Botany
Alfred Newton, Zoology/Insects
Lavida Rodgers, Housekeeping
Levertia Short, Museum Stores
Norris Smith, Visitor Services
Jessie Thymes, Education

UNABLE TO ATTEND

Elsie Bates, Development - Retiree
Dianne Maurer, Zoology/Birds - Retiree
Elizabeth Moore, Botany - Retiree
Norm Radtke, Facilities - Retiree
Robert Battaglia, Engineering - 35 Years
William Burger, Botany - 30 Years
Matthew Nitecki, Geology - 30 Years
Richard Faron, Exhibits - 15 Years
Christine Gross, Anthropology - 15 Years
Gail Asikin, Vending - 10 Years
Liberio Gallegos, Housekeeping - 10 Years
James Hammond, Visitor Services
James Koeppl, Computing
Carolyn Moon, Visitor Services
Debra Moskovits, Environ. Consv. Programs

HONORED RETIREE
ELSIE F. BATES
Unable to attend

Elsie Bates began her employment with the Museum on October 13, 1986 providing administrative assistance to the Development/Corporations and Foundations area. Her dedication and commitment to the Museum meant so much to its advancement. Elsie's strength was her proficiency and patience with the computer and learning and adapting to new technology and software programs. As well, her research abilities were invaluable and are very much missed within the Development office. Elsie has been a wonderful colleague and friend and is missed by her co-workers and friends. We extend our thanks to Elsie for her years of service to the Museum and wish her all the best in the years ahead.



HONORED RETIREE
GLANVER A. BROOKS

Glen began his employment at The Field Museum on April 28, 1988 as a Security Officer I in the Security and Visitor Services Department. In 1991 when Security Services and Visitor Services were made two separate departments, Glen moved to the Visitor Services Department. In June, 1991 Glen was promoted to Visitor Services Representative II. Glen was a great ambassador of the Museum. He possessed a wealth of information that served the Department and visitors well. Glen always had a positive and enthusiastic outlook on every aspect of his job and the Museum. He was genuinely concerned with issues that related to the Department and the Museum and would consistently strive to improve the overall operation. In June 1994, Glen was promoted to Visitor Services Supervisor. In that position, he was responsible for developing and implementing training guidelines, policies and procedures. Glen retired from the Museum on March 24, 1995 and we all join in wishing him a long, healthy, and happy retirement. We extend our thanks to Glen for his years of service to our guests, staff, and visitors.

HONORED RETIREE
LORRAINE H. HOBE

Lorraine joined the Museum on August 14, 1978 as part of our Mailroom staff. In June, 1988 Lorraine was promoted to Mailroom Supervisor and served in that capacity until her retirement. She efficiently and effectively handled all the Museum's internal and external communications and kept everything running smoothly. Lorraine worked hard to keep the Museum's costs down on central supplies and was known to roll up her sleeves to fix a xerox machine! Often she saved a service call from the Xerox repair person. During her years of service at the Museum, Lorraine saw many changes and accepted them all calmly. She just did what needed to be done to ensure the smooth running of the Mailroom. Lorraine retired from the Museum on March 30, 1995, and she is missed by her friends and co-workers. We all extend our thanks to Lorraine for seventeen years of service to the Museum and wish her the very best in the years ahead.

HONORED RETIREE
M. DIANNE MAURER
Unable to attend

On February 28, 1995, Dianne Maurer, Assistant in the Bird Division, retired after 41 years of service to the Museum. Diane started her Museum career on December 7, 1953 with Dr. Theodor Just in the Botany Department, moving to the Zoology Department, Bird Division in 1957. She saw the Museum through four presidents and directors, and the Bird Division through six curators. After starting her career taking dictation and using a manual typewriter, she skillfully adapted to spread sheets and WordPerfect. While doing this, she developed a remarkable knowledge of birds, making her invaluable to the division. Dianne provided extraordinary continuity for the Bird Division and left an immensely positive, indelible mark on its history. We thank Dianne for her distinguished years of service and wish her the best in her retirement.

HONORED RETIREE
ELIZABETH A. MOORE
Unable to attend

Liz Moore retired from the Museum on February 3, 1995 after 21 years of distinguished service in the departments of Development, Geology, Facility Planning and Operations, and Botany. Liz came to the Botany Department in 1986 where she served as Administrative Assistant until her retirement. The experiences Liz gained from her work throughout the Museum were wonderful to have in Botany and served that Department well. She was superb in dealing with and tracking budgetary matters and usually came up with timely solutions to problems. Department members relied upon her good sense and judgment and solicited her advice and council concerning a broad spectrum of matters. Death of a colleague within a Department is always difficult, but the untimely passing of Botany Chair, Tim Plowman, was particularly traumatic for the Department. During this period, Liz was the administrative cornerstone, and her steadiness and guidance were wonderful through this difficult period. We extend our thanks to Liz for 21 years of service to the Museum and wish her the best in the years ahead.

HONORED RETIREE
NORMAN P. RADTKE
Unable to attend

Norm Radtke was hired on May 14, 1973 as the Administrator of Facilities Planning and Operations. For twenty-two years, Norm's stewardship of our magnificent building has been outstanding. It is the collections, the endowments, the people, and the building which are the foundation of this Museum. Over time, Norm carefully and imaginatively enabled this building to be an enduring shelter for the invaluable work that is conducted within it. While Norm was at the Museum over 550 contracted projects totalling over forty-four million dollars were completed. From the restoration of our exterior building, to replacing our roof, to replacing windows with thermopane glass for more energy saving measures, no part of the building has escaped his scrutiny and protection. Norm met our needs to face the future with more economical ways of handling energy issues while saving the Museum thousands of dollars. We are forever indebted to Norm for what he has done for The Field Museum for the benefit of present and future generations. We wish Norm the best in his future endeavors.

CENTER FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND CHANGE

CHICAGO TRIBUNE FEATURES ROOSEVELT AND MACARTHUR FELLOWS

Anna Roosevelt (Anthropology) was included in a cover story on the MacArthur Fellows program in the December 3 *Chicago Tribune* Sunday magazine. The magazine cover featured a photograph of Roosevelt at her field site in the Amazon.

NOON BALLOON

The Noon Balloon presentation for Tuesday, December 12, 1995 was delivered by **Chapurukha Kusimba** (Anthropology). Chap discussed the importance of trade in the development of complex societies of the precolonial East African coast.

The emergence of maritime trade with coastal Africa is generally considered in the context of 15th century european exploration. However, trade between peoples of South Asia and the Swahili of the eastern coast of Africa, from southern Somalia to northern Mozambique is now known to have been active as early as the 8th century A.D. The 400+ identified sites are classified using parameters that indicate the area occupied, number of physical structures such as residences, mosques, and burial sites as an indication of population levels and potential societal complexity.

Most coastal sites were located in good port facilities as well as near the mouth of a navigable river as a route for trade goods from areas inland. Chap focused on his excavation work at two sites in Kenya. The first at Mtwapa (1150-1750 AD) was a well-planned city with sixty-four buildings occupying nine acres. Residences varied from a single house to triplexes and complex multi- generational dwellings. Internal floor plans reflected an intimacy gradient of interaction.

The second site excavated, at Galu (630-1750 AD), appeared to be a simple five acre enclosure about two miles inland. The encircling wall was dated as 18th century. However an iron-working site within the enclosure has been dated as 7th century. The excavated Galu smelting furnaces may be the oldest on the East African Coast. Metalurgical analysis of various tools recovered at Galu indicate a range in quality of composition. Sections from low carbon ferrite, high carbon steel or crucible steel are each quite distinctive. The finding of crucible steel at Galu was most extraordinary, since the process is generally thought to have originated in Sri Lanka and India in the 10th century, and was a carefully guarded secret until the 15th century. The dating of the Galu crucible steel as 7th century was therefore even more remarkable.

Chap concluded with a discussion of future work to document possible trade relationships that may have existed among a variety of inland groups and the coastal areas.

CENTER FOR EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

CHANNEL 11 TO SHOW FILM "UNDERSTANDING BIODIVERSITY "

A short film on the work of Field Museum scientists in Venezuela will be aired on WTTW, Channel 11, on Monday, December 18 at 10:30 p.m.

CRANE IN MICHIGAN

Peter R. Crane (Academic Affairs) recently presented lectures at Andrews University in Berrien Springs and Kalamazoo, Michigan where he spoke to the Michigan Botanical Society.

MUELLER AND MURPHY TALK TO TNC VOLUNTEER STEWARDS

Greg Mueller and **Jack Murphy** (Botany) participated in the 1995 Volunteer Stewards Network Conference sponsored by The Nature Conservancy. Nearly 250 people attended the conference at the College of Du Page on 8 December. Greg presented the Keynote Address. His topic was the role of volunteers in monitoring biodiversity in the Chicago area. Jack's talk focused on how volunteers can help in the ongoing survey of northern Illinois and Indiana fungi and included information on fungal ecology and identification. Based on the responses they received from the audience, Jack and Greg will be getting lots of help from a number of people throughout the region.

QIUXIN WU ATTENDS MEETING IN CHINA

Qiuxin Wu (Botany) attended The 10th Anniversary Meeting of Systematic Mycology & Lichenology Laboratory and The Second China-Korea Joint Seminar for Mycology in Beijing, China, from November 13-17. Qiuxin presented a paper titled "Systematics of *Clavicorona* based on morphology, compatibility, and laccase electrophoretic patterns." More than seventy mycologists from China, South Korea, England, Finland, Sweden, and the U.S. attended this meeting. The Systematic Mycology & Lichenology Laboratory (SMLL) is directly funded by the Chinese Academy of Sciences to support systematic studies of fungi. During this meeting, the academic council of SMLL reviewed research proposals. Qiuxin and Greg Mueller's project on biodiversity survey of macrofungi in China is approved for funding. This grant will support them to conduct field work in China.

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions is Tuesday at noon. Printed on recycled paper.